Master Sgt. Willie Ervin Wilson Jr. is a native of Louisiana. He entered the United States Army Sept. 19, 1986, as an Armor Crewman (19E). His leadership positions include: Tank Commander, Platoon Sergeant, S-3 Operations Sergeant, G-3 Operations Sergeant, G-3 Schools NCOIC. Assignments include: Alpha Company 4-68 AR, Fort Carson, Colo.; Bravo Company 2-72, Camp Casey, Korea; Alpha Company 1-70 AR, Fort Polk, La.; Alpha Company 1-66 AR, Fort Hood, Texas; Charlie Troop 3-4 Cavalry, Schweinfurt, Germany; Charlie Troop 1-4 Cavalry, Schweinfurt, Germany; HHC 2nd BDE, Schweinfurt, Germany; Bravo Troop, 1-16 Cavalry, Fort Knox, Kentucky; Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, Alpha Troop, & Charlie Troop, 1-7 Cavalry, Fort Hood, Texas; Charlie Company, & Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-12 Combined Arms Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas,; Bravo Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas.

Wilson's deployment history includes Bosnia (JFOR) and Operation Iraqi Freedom. MSG Wilson's military education includes Warrior Leaders Course, Advanced Leaders Course, Senior Leaders Course, Observer Controller Academy, M1A2 Tank Commander Certification, Equal Opportunity Program Managers Course, Anti Terrorism Level II, and the MRAP-University and Combat Life Savers Courses. His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Upper Iowa University.

His awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal (1OLC), Meritorious Service Award, Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Army Achievement Medal (7th Award), Army Good Conduct Medal (8th Award), National Defense Service Medal (2 Bronze Stars), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal-CS (2nd Bronze Stars), Global War on Terrorism Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (3rd Award), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (4th Award), NATO Medal, the Army Superior Unit Award, the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation (3OLC), and the Combat Action Badge (CAB).